of this sector in NER in general and particular in Nagal and State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) State-wise separate policies are not formulated and implemented in the handloom and handicraft sectors. However, for overall promotion and development of handlooms and handicrafts in the country including the State of Nagaland, a number of schemes are being implemented.

(b) and (c) At least 10% of the outlay of handicrafts and handlooms sectors is being earmarked for North Eastern States including the State of Nagaland. Certain schemes of the handloom sector have a special dispensation for the North East Sector including Nagaland. In the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Prothsahan Yojana, the pattern of assistance for the rest of the country between Centre and the State is 50:50. However, for the North Eastern States it is 90:10. In the Handicrafts sector a project with UNDP assistance for Development of cane and bamboo is under implementation in North Eastern States including the state of Nagaland.

Revival of Azam Jahl Mill in Andhra Pradesh

2572. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has approached the Union Government for revival of Azam Jam' Mill, Warangal in the State;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the said mill was taken by NTC during 1974 and no help has been given by NTC to the mill; and

(c) if so, whether Union Government are expected to provide a necessary financial help to the mill, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. State Government requested for revival of the said mill.

(b) The mill was taken over in 1974 and an amount of Rs. 3.71 crores was incurred on modernization of the mill.

(c) An amount of Rs. 8.89 Crores was provided to this mill for meeting shortfall in wages and salaries as budgetary support between 1996-97 till date. Due to uneconomic operations, the mill has not been turning out any production since 1993 and workers are being given idle wages. The Operating Agency (IFCI), after assessing the viability, recommended for closure of the mill. BIFR circulated the Draft Rehabilitation Scheme for objections and suggestions of all agencies including the State Government. The final decision regarding revival or closure of the mill is be taken by BIFR.

Closure of NTC and STC Mills

2573. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) how many NTC and STC textiles mills lying closed at present;

(b) how many have lost employment;

(c) whether Government propose to give priority to reopen these mills in the State, particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(d) if so, by when these will start functioning; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) Ajudhia Textile Mills was the only NTC mill closed in pursuance of orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court on polluting industries. Apart from this, there are 43 NTC mills in 8 sick NTC subsidiaries, which are not having any activity. However, none of them are 'closed* and the workers are being paid idle wages.

There are 40 STC mills reported to be having no activity, which are under the management of respective State Governments. The status